Scholarship to students of Maulana Azad Foundation

1392. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned by Government to the Maulana Azad Foundation, for scholarships to students; and

(b) the number of scholarships given to students during 2007, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) Interest earned on the corpus of Rs. 200 crores, provided by Government, is the resource available to the Maulana Azad Education Foundation for implementing its educational schemes, including the scheme for scholarship to meritorious girl students.

During 2007-08, the Foundation has so far not sanctioned any scholarship to meritorious girl student as the last date of receipt of applications was 30/09/2007.

Report of Rangnath Mishra Commission

1393. SHRI ALI ANWAR: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rangnath Mishra Commission handed over its report to Government on 10th May, 2007;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Commission has recommended to abolish the restriction of religion for providing facilities and reservation similar to Scheduled Castes;

(c) if so, whether the Government would have a discussion on this report in the House and if so, by when; and

(d) by when Government would implement the recommendation of the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (d) The National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities (NCRLM) submitted its report to the Government on 21st May, 2007. The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration of Government.

Identification of towns and districts for multi-sectoral plan in A.P.

1394. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to State:

(a) the details of minority towns and districts identified in Andhra Pradesh, out of the 338 identified in the country, to formulate the approach for multi-sectoral plan;

(b) the basis adopted in identifying the above towns and districts;

(c) how this Ministry is planning to implement its multi-sectoral plans in the State;

(d) whether there is any time-frame fixed for completing the plan;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) Out of 338 towns, having at least 50,000 population and comprising at least 25% minority population, 25 fall in Andhra Pradesh. The list is given in the Statement (*See below*).